

## **News Release**

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Contact: Mark Fawver
Public Affairs Officer
Caltrans - (530) 225-3260

California Department of Transportation District 2, Redding Brian Crane, District Director

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Highway Info - 1-800-427-7623 http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **New Antelope Creek Bridge Project Begins**

**REDDING** – Work began this week on a \$3,000,000 bridge replacement project on State Route 99 in Tehama County at Antelope Creek, about seven miles south of Red Bluff. As part of the California Department of Transportation's ongoing program to improve the safety and operation of the highway system, this project will greatly improve conditions at the Antelope Creek Bridge near the Lassen View Elementary School. A new 120 foot long structure, designed and built to current seismic and structure standards will be constructed on a new alignment, just to the west of the existing 1950's era bridge. The new bridge will feature three traffic lanes, providing for a center turn lane, as well as two 12 foot wide through lanes and eight foot wide shoulders for additional motorist safety.

Construction workers and equipment from Tullis and Heller Inc., of Redding, have begun the initial stages of the project and expect to have new structure in operation by August 2004. Work will take place Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM. With the construction taking place on a new alignment, any delays to motorists will be minimal until which time the new road approaches must be made. At that time delays of up to 10 minutes may be expected when traffic will be allowed through the construction zone under one-way controlled conditions with flaggers and pilot cars.

Advance warning and changeable message signs will alert motorists when approaching the construction zone. Motorists are asked to reduce their speed and drive with caution when approaching the construction zone.

The Caltrans Resident Engineer for the project will be Wayne Rinard.